

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-31 (Canceled)

32. (New) A method for accelerating the setting of a hydraulic inorganic binder composition to which has been added an additive comprising hydrophilic functional groups, comprising the step of adding to said composition a sufficient amount of calcium silicate hydrates or of silica with a high specific surface.

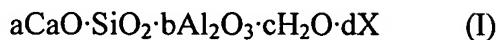
33. (New) The method for accelerating the setting of a hydraulic inorganic binder composition to which has been added an additive comprising hydrophilic functional groups comprising the steps of:

a) adding to said additive a sufficient amount of calcium silicate hydrates or of silica of high specific surface in an aqueous solution with stirring; and
b) added to the suspension obtained in stage a) the hydraulic inorganic binder composition.

34. (New) The method as claimed in claim 33, further comprising an additional step of drying the suspension obtained in step a) until a powder is obtained.

35. (New) The method as claimed in claim 34, wherein the drying is carried out by an atomization process.

36. (New) The method as claimed in claim 33, wherein the calcium silicate hydrates are compounds of following formula (I):



in which:

X represents an alkali metal chosen from Li, Na, K, Rb, Cs or their mixture;

Wherein:

$$0 \leq a \leq 2$$

$$0 \leq b \leq 1$$

$$1 \leq c \leq 5$$

$$0 \leq d \leq 1$$

or, optionally, wherein:

$$0 \leq a \leq 0.66$$

$$0 \leq b \leq 1$$

$$1 \leq c \leq 5$$

$$0 \leq d \leq 0.4$$

37. (New) The method as claimed in claim 36, wherein the calcium silicate hydrates are compounds of formula (I) in which a, b and d are zero, that is to say silica, optionally a precipitated silica.

38. (New) The method as claimed in claim 37, wherein the silica has a specific surface is at least 200 m²/g, optionally at least 300 m²/g.

39. (New) The method as claimed in claim 32, wherein the calcium silicate hydrate or silica is added in an amount of between 0.5 and 200%, optionally between 10 and 100%, by weight of dry calcium silicate hydrates or silica with respect to the weight of the dry additive comprising anionic hydrophilic functional groups.

40. (New) The method as claimed in claim 40, wherein the amount of calcium silicate hydrates or of silica is approximately 50% by weight of dry calcium silicate

hydrates or silica of high specific surface with respect to the weight of the dry additive comprising anionic hydrophilic functional groups.

41. (New) The method as claimed in claim 32, wherein the additive comprising hydrophilic functional groups is a film-forming polymer comprising anionic hydrophilic groups.

42. (New) The method as claimed in claim 41, wherein the anionic hydrophilic groups are carboxyl, sulfonate, phosphate, phosphonate, sulfate or boronate groups.

43. (New) The method as claimed in claim 41, wherein the film-forming polymer is based on at least one vinyl acetate, styrene/butadiene, styrene/acrylate, acrylate, styrene/butadiene/acrylate homopolymer or copolymer.

44. (New) The method as claimed in claim 41, wherein the film-forming polymer is prepared by an emulsion polymerization process and is in the form of an aqueous dispersion or in the form of a powder, it being possible for said powder to be redispersed in water.

45. (New) The method as claimed in claim 41, wherein the film-forming polymer exhibits a surface comprising carboxyl groups and thus a degree of surface acidity, wherein the degree of surface acidity is between 80 and 1200, optionally between 100 and 600 microequivalents of -COOH functional group per gram of polymer.

46. (New) The method as claimed in claim 41, wherein the hydraulic inorganic binders comprise between 0.1% and 30%, optionally between 0.1% and 20% by weight of dry polymer with respect to the weight of the hydraulic binder.

47. (New) The method as claimed in claim 32, wherein the hydraulic binder is a cement selected from the group consisting of high-alumina Portland, blast-furnace Portland, fly ash, calcined shales or calcium silicates formed by the reaction of pozzolans with lime.

48. (New) Tiling bonding cements, smoothing and finishing coatings, adhesives and coatings for insulating complexes, self-leveling floor coatings, repair mortars, leaktight coatings and grouts for the cementation of oil wells, comprising an hydraulic inorganic binder composition made by the method of claim 32.